



page 8

midwestern journal



page 3



red arrow sports



pages 9 & 16

50 CENTS



Wittenbach/Wege Center seeks committee members

by Emma Palova

The Wittenbach/Wege Agriscience and Environmental Education Center is seeking members for a newly formed stewardship committee that will create a land management plan to protect the 80 acres of land.

"We want to develop a plan to better manage our land," said center director Meggan Johnson.

The plan will address special areas of concerns and what needs to be protected.

The 12-member committee will work together with the adjacent Wege Preserve which is managed by Land Conservancy of West Michigan.

The volunteer group will conduct plant and animal inventories to determine which species need to be protected, as well as the

evaluation of the location of invasive species.

Major invasive species include garlic mustard, spotted knapweed and autumn olive.

"We have to figure out a plan to remove them," she said.

Invasive species take over everything else creating a monoculture limiting the amount of animals you can attract, according to Johnson.

The group will also educate the community on how to eliminate the invasive species on their properties.

"We will be looking for volunteers to do inventories, frog surveys, bird observation and monitoring of nest boxes," she said.

Center members, continued, page 2



Melanie Manion speaks to a group of Master Naturalists on how to identify and remove invasive species at the Wittenbach/Wege Agriscience and Environmental Education Center.

2012 Lowell Expo set for March 24

by Emma Palova

Save the date for the 16th annual community Expo that will be held at the Lowell High School on March 24 from 9 am to 3 pm.

Sponsored by the Lowell Ledger and Lowell Buyers Guide, the event features local businesses, non-profits, churches, various organizations, schools and municipalities.

The main purpose of

the Expo is to spotlight all of these to other businesses and to the public, to increase community awareness and to give vendors an opportunity to increase exposure to the community and to prospective customers.

"Our hope is to grow the west hall with schools," said Lowell area chamber director Liz Baker.

There will be a school

display at the west end of the hallway.

"We want to highlight special interest groups out of school," Baker said.

Baker, who had yet to sell three booths last week, said she was not going to add any more space.

"Last year we had vendors in the west hallway, but we want to focus on the school in that space," she said.

FROM will have a special announcement on the stage at 10 am, preceded by bluegrass music of Easy Idle Band.

"Come and visit with the booths and learn about businesses and doing business locally," said Baker.

The Expo has grown tremendously over the years from few participating vendors to a sold out event. Some vendors, like Canfield, Seese and Harding, participated in the first year and continue to this day.

The Lowell Arts, museum and the YMCA haven't missed a single Expo. Lowell Area Schools (LAS) provide the facility and Lowell Light and Power has been giving bucket rides for the last 10 years.

Baker conducts a follow-up survey and the response is overly positive.

"Everybody gets good exposure," she said.

Lunch is provided by LAS.

The menu this year features cherry chicken walnut salad wrap or turkey co-jack cheese, tomato and lettuce on a croissant with coleslaw for \$3, as well as cheeseburger and chicken nuggets for \$2. The Pink Arrow staff visits with booth vendors to pick up and deliver orders.

An important part of the event is recycling by Comprenew of old electronics for a suggested \$10 donation.

The non-profit organization offers recycling of old computers, audio/visual equipment, household electronics and most anything with a cord or battery.

Acceptable items include cell phones, radios, VCRs, DVD players, TVs, computer components and accessories, such as laptops, monitors, keyboards, mice, printers, speakers, memory sticks, modems and power cords.

Among the new vendors this year are Builders Fireplace, Catholic Charities WM, Crystal Carpet Care, Crystal Flash Energy, Ella's Coffee & Cuisine, Evergreen Missionary Church, Family Dentistry of Lowell, Great Harvest Bread Co.,



The banner across Main Street announces the 16th annual Expo.

Expo, continued, page 3

Elementary students learn to *Think! Energy*

Think! Energy, a collaborative program provided to schools by Consumers Energy, was presented to Murray Lake Elementary's fourth graders earlier this

month. This program is sponsored by the National Energy Foundation, Consumers Energy and Michigan Department of Education to share energy saving solutions

with families to help reduce their energy bills and save money by learning the power of energy efficiency.

Each student who participated in the program received, free of charge, an energy saving Take Action Kit. The kit contains energy saving devices: an LED night light, three CFL light-bulbs which use 75 percent less energy, a shower timer and a high efficiency showerhead. A pre- and post-survey was filled out by each student and each classroom that returns the surveys earns a \$100 mini-grant to be used for their class. This is Murray Lake's third year of participating in this program.



Center members, continued

The group will be starting from scratch since there has never been a management plan in place.

Johnson is aiming for an end of April or beginning of May meeting and to complete the plan by the end of the year. The plan will be implemented the following year.

"We want to get a better feel of what plants and animals live here," she said.

The time commitment will require attendance at quarterly meetings and occasional work days.

The land encompasses forests, prairie and wetlands.

You can contact Johnson at 616-987-2565 or e-mail at mjohnson@lowellschools.com

"We are looking for people with interest and/or background in any of these areas," she said, "who have the willingness to help and to get involved."

And it's a good time of the year to do the plan.



along main street

PEAT IN THE CREEL

Live music March 15 at 6:30 pm. Come and join Green Acres of Lowell for some traditional Celtic music and a taste of Ireland at no charge. For more information contact Kelly Johnson or James Wyman, 987-9115.

of the first signs of spring and what better way to celebrate the coming of spring than to attend the Maple Syrup Fest at the Wittenbach/Wege Agriscience and Environmental Education Center on Sat., March 17. Join us for a pancake breakfast (served from 9-12 pm) and a chance to go back in time and learn how maple syrup was made by both the Native Americans and early settlers with the help of the Lowell Historical Museum. Call 987-2565 for more information.

LOWELL HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS

General local scholarship applications are available in the Student Services Center. To be fair to all students, applications will not be accepted after 3:00 pm on Friday, March 16. Don't forget to include two letters of recommendation, transcript and personal statement. For more information please call Mrs. Nauta at 987-2913.

REGIONAL (ART) COMPETITION

March 22 thru April 26. Reception March 25, 2-4 pm, LowellArts!, 149 S. Hudson Street. Gallery hours: Tuesday-Friday, 10:00 am - 6:00 pm; and Saturday, 1:00 - 4:00 pm. For more information, call 897-8545 or visit www.lowellartsmi.org

FREE FRIDAY ZUMBA

Fri., March 16, 6:00 - 7:00 pm, Zumba for kids; 7:00 - 8:00 pm, adult Zumba. Donations accepted for Strong Kids. Lowell YMCA, 1335 West Main Street.

CLASSIC GRAVEL ROAD RACE

Gravel/paved road bicycle race in Ionia County. Sat., March 31 at Fallasburg Park. Start time is 10:00 am. For information contact Jeff Zvirzdinis at 616-262-6132 or www.thelowell50.com

MAPLE SYRUP FEST

As the snow begins to melt, the sap slowly starts to rise in the sugar maple trees. Maple syrup season is truly one



FLAT RIVER OUTREACH MINISTRIES

In partnership with the Kent County Tax Credit Coalition of United Way, Flat River Outreach Ministries is providing free tax preparation services to qualifying families with annual income less than \$50,000.

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To register and verify eligibility, please call our tax services hotline at 421-0029.

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Midwestern Gothic provides a platform for authors from an overlooked region

by Emma Palova

The Midwestern Gothic literary journal provides an outlet for budding and established authors who live, have lived or those who have been inspired by the Midwest.

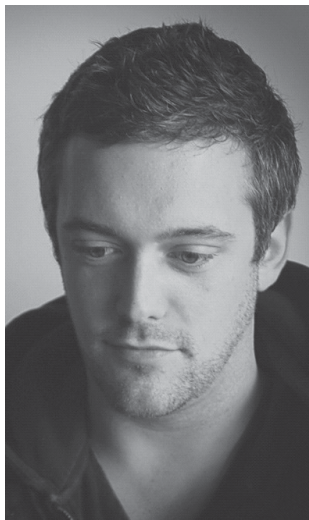
Founded by Michiganders, Jeff Pfaller and Robert James Russell, the quarterly journal features fiction and poetry with a focus on imperfect characters in small towns, suburbs and urban areas of the Midwest.

"We're authors ourselves," said Pfaller. "We like looking at different genres. The Midwest is a very interesting area, often overlooked."

There's a nice mix of characters in the Midwest



Jeff Pfaller



Robert James Russell

from the down-to-earth farmers, artists to urban professionals.

"It's a diverse range of

people that are stitched together by hard work," said Pfaller. "It's a nice breeding ground for authors."

The Gothic in the name of the magazine does not necessarily mean dark and gloomy themes, but it reflects the whole tapestry of the Midwest from nature's beauty to the uplifting spirits of the people.

"It has a very authentic feeling that ties together the good, the bad and the ugly," said Pfaller.

Pfaller graduated from Lowell High School in 1999 and his parents, Bob and Gay Pfaller, live in Lowell. Uncle Jim is a former city councilmember.

Pfaller received an advertising degree from Michigan State University in 2003. He currently works for advertising agency Leo

Burnett as an account strategy director in Chicago. Pfaller is a novelist, short story writer and screenwriter whose work includes writing multiple ongoing comic series, acting as creative director for Saint James Comics and co-founding Midwestern Gothic.

Russell is a novelist and poet whose work appears or is forthcoming in Joyland, Thunderclap! Red River Review, Greatest Lakes Review, Eighty Percent Magazine, Down in the Dirt, and The Legendary, among others. His first novel, Sea of Trees, will be released in May 2012 by Winter Goose Publishing. He lives in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

"We hope people will seek us out through Google," he said. "We're passionate about Midwestern writing."

The focus on the area sets the journal apart from other literary publications. The initial strategy was to focus on new authors, however, that has broadened.

The contributors for the winter issue range from students, teachers and editors to journalists and sexuality educators.

For more information go to www.midwestgothic.com

Expo, continued

Hollywood Doggie Spa, Huisman Photography, Kent County Youth Agricultural Association, Kris's Kolors, Lowell Floral, Lowell Showboat Garden Club, Mr. Roof, Next Coatings LLC, Retirement Living Management Green Acres of Lowell, Rite Aid Pharmacies, Summit Tree Service Inc., Tastefully Simple, Thirty One, Universal Wireless/

Sprint, We Shall Overcome, Witt's Inn and Café, Xango Independent Distributor and Youth Advisory Council at LHS.

The stage will rock with entertainment: everything from piano music, Tae Kwan Do demonstration to violins and magic.

Also, the new Lowell city directory will be unveiled during the Expo.

This year the vendors have to set up on Friday and they should stay confined in their booth.

"We hope the weather is on the chilly side so people

come to the Expo," Baker said. "I hope the attendance is high again."

Last year, approximately 5,000 to 6,000 people visited the Expo.

Don't forget to check out the special Expo section in this week's Buyers Guide.

Former Lowell man sentenced for home invasions

Kenneth Lee Womble, formerly of Lowell, was sentenced to prison by Judge Dennis Leiber in the 17th Circuit Court on Wednesday, March 7, following his

plea to two felony counts of home invasion.

Womble was arrested in Lansing on November 8, 2011, following a string of five home invasions in the City of Lowell and Vergennes Township. Womble pled guilty to two counts.

On the first count: home invasion in the first degree, he was sentenced to 60 to 240 months. On the second count: home invasion in the second degree, he was sentenced to 38 to 180 months. In addition, Womble was ordered to pay \$7,814.38 in

restitution. Womble was remanded to the custody of the Michigan Department of Corrections where he will serve his sentence.

LUNCH MENU

ELEMENTARY MENU
Week of
March 19, 2012

MON: Chicken nuggets w/ whole grain breading, cornbread, seasoned steamed broccoli, orange wedges, milk.

TUES: Toasted cheese sandwich on whole grain bread w/tomato soup & crackers, baby carrots, fruit crisp, milk.

WED: Sweet & sour chicken w/brown rice, celery sticks w/light ranch dip, pineapple, milk.

THURS: Chicken & cheese quesadilla served w/salsa, black beans, banana, milk.

FRI: Homemade cheese pizza on whole grain crust, tossed romaine salad w/ light dressing, applesauce, milk.

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financial focus



Christopher C. Godbold

Give your portfolio a "spring cleaning"

Springtime is almost here. If you're like many people, the arrival of spring means it's time to spruce up your home. But why stop there? This year, consider applying some of those same spring-cleaning techniques to your investment portfolio.

Here are some ideas you may want to put to work:

- Get rid of clutter. You probably don't have to look too far around your home to find things that are broken or simply no longer useful to you. If you poke around your portfolio, you might make similar discoveries: an investment that has chronically underperformed, duplicates another investment or met your needs in the past but is less relevant to your current situation and goals. Once you identify these types of investments, you may decide to sell them and use the proceeds to take advantage of opportunities that may prove more valuable to you.

- Consolidate. Over the years, you may have accumulated multiple versions of common household items — brooms, mops, hammers

— which pop up mysteriously in various parts of your home. You might find it more efficient, and even less expensive, if you consolidated all these things in one centralized location. As an investor, you also might find that consolidation can offer you some benefits. Do you have one Individual Retirement Account (IRA) with one financial services provider and a second IRA with another? Do you have a couple of old 401(k) accounts with former employers? And have you scattered investments here, there and everywhere? By consolidating all these accounts in one place, you can cut down on paperwork, reduce fees and, most importantly, unite your investment dollars so that it's easier for you to see what you have and then follow a single, coherent investment strategy.

- Prepare for turbulent weather. As you know, springtime can bring heavy rains, hail, strong winds and other threats to your home. As part of your overall spring cleaning, you may want to check the condition of your roof, clear

branches away from your house, clean your gutters and downspouts, and take other steps to protect your property from the ravages of Mother Nature. And just as you need to safeguard your home, you'll want to protect the lifestyles of those who live in that home — namely, your family. You can help accomplish this by reviewing your life and disability insurance to make sure it's still sufficient for your needs.

- Get professional help. You may find that you can't do all your spring cleaning by yourself. For example, if your carpets and rugs are heavily soiled, you may need to call in a professional cleaner. Or if your tree branches have grown out of control, you might need to bring in a tree trimmer. Similarly, when you decide to "tidy up" your portfolio, you'll need some assistance from a financial professional — someone who can study your current mix of investments and recommend changes, as needed, to help ensure your holdings are suitable for your risk tolerance, time horizon and short- and long-term goals.

Spring cleaning can reinvigorate your home and your overall outlook. And by tidying up your investment portfolio, you can help gain some of that same optimism — for your future.

LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
COUNTY OF KENT

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate
FILE NO. 12-191821-DE

Estate of JONATHON BUTTERMORE. Date of birth: 11/26/1968.

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Jonathon Buttermore, died 12/27/2011.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever

barred unless presented to Julie Budden-Bronsink, named personal representative or proposed personal representative, or to both the probate court at 180 Ottawa Avenue NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49503 and the named/proposed personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

03/09/2012

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viewpoint

to the editor

annie uncovered

Dear Editor,
I am so disappointed with our Lowell Ledger!! I received my paper on Wed.

anticipating a big write up on the awesome, fantastic performance of "Annie" presented by the Lowell High

School theater department. Are these kids not just as important as the Chamber of Commerce (over a dozen pictures and articles covering nearly three pages of the paper)?

Shame on you folks

for not being there to cover such a fabulous performance!!

Kudos to you performers!!

You were wonderful.

Bev Anderson
Lowell

outdoors



possibilities

Dave Stegehuis

Fall, the time of harvest, has always been associated with the advent of hunting seasons. Deer, upland game, and waterfowl hunters look forward to the opportunity to roam the fields, wetlands, and woods surrounded by colorful landscapes filled with the scent of dry leaves and dead grass floating on a cool breeze. The reintroduction and proliferation of the Eastern wild turkey provides yet another opportunity to return to the land to hunt. This time, during the transition to another season when warm spring breezes carry the fresh smell of emerging vegetation and the booming gobble of a wild turkey.

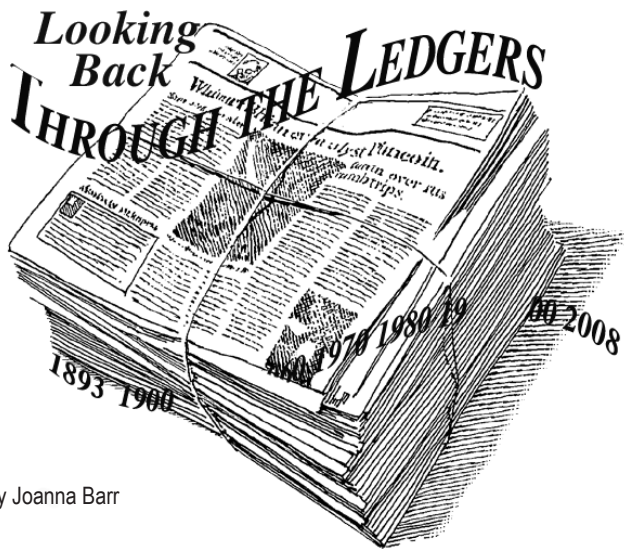
Anticipation is a major part of the hunting experience. Bagging wild game is actually only one of many reasons why hunters and fishermen continue to venture outdoors. Once afield, the possibilities for new and unique experiences are boundless. These possibilities provide the motivation to get out of a warm bed well before daylight on a dark cold, sometimes rainy morning, and follow the beam of a headlamp to a favorite turkey woods or wade into a rocky stretch of steelhead water. If you don't go out, you won't catch anything. You may not anyway,

but for sure nothing is going to happen if you're not there.

The excitement and anticipation never gets old. Most of the time the day will pass without anything remarkable happening, but sooner or later one will have an experience which will be etched in memory for a lifetime. It is when recalling that memory when one realizes that if we had not gone out that day, we would have missed the opportunity.

So, that is why it is risky to find an excuse not to go out and therefore miss the possibilities. Just because every outing doesn't turn into an unforgettable event filled with drama and excitement, there are always benefits to getting out there. An uneventful day still provides time to let go of nagging concerns and quietly reflect on what is going on in our lives and what is really important to us and put things in proper perspective. If we can share that experience with another, especially a youngster, we get an extra bonus.

If we come home with salmon fillets, or turkey drumsticks, the return on our investment of time is even greater, but having the experience is much more important than the final outcome.



By Joanna Barr

110 Years Ago The Lowell Ledger March 20, 1902

Headline: Nothing new in Klump case. The headlines tell the whole story. The question of who prepared and sent the poisoned headache powder to Mrs. Will Klump is as far from solution as ever. One after another of the so-called clues has been traced by untiring officers only to be found worthless. One of the most foolish of these was with the name of an honest, hardworking woman in this village. Another alluded to a not "overly-bright" brother of the deceased; but was found equally foundationless. Deputy Sheriff Morse has done a lot of hard work in the case; and is still confident that "murder will out;" while Sheriff Chapman and his aides are still on the hunt. Will Klump is still in confinement but it seems must soon be released, no evidence against him having yet been found. His several visits to Grand Rapids have been shown to have been in search of a "good time" and evidently had no connection with the death of his wife.

100 Years Ago The Lowell Ledger March 14, 1912

Ora Godfrey's house caught fire yesterday afternoon about one o'clock, the fire being started by a spark falling upon the roof. F. M. Godfrey happened to be present at the time and by quick work, they extinguished the fire without further damage than a large hole in the roof.

Ray Howard took thirteen of the young people for a very enjoyable sleighride Friday evening to a social given by Miss Ella Thomas for the benefit of her school near Lowell. All reported a most delightful time. Miss Ella returned with the party and went to Grand Rapids Saturday.

Miss Kate White, teacher of the Bennett school and several of her students are ill with the mumps.

The local saw mill owned by Mr. Allen of Lowell is closed, will be reopened as soon as weather permits.

75 Years Ago The Lowell Ledger March 18, 1937

A boom year has been reported by Michigan fur-trappers due to the increase in prices for raw pelts. Prices on some furs during the past season have been the highest since the depression. Muskrat pelts more than doubled in value over last year and higher quotations have been offered on beaver pelts.

The Grand Valley Conference, of which Lowell is a member, met last Monday night at which time the all-conference basketball teams were selected. Lowell was able to place Fonger (junior) on the first squad as a forward and Phelps (sophomore) on the second squad as a guard. These boys will take part in the all-star basketball game which is to be held at East Grand Rapids gym at 7:30 next Tuesday night. Tickets will be on sale at the school and at Christiansen's for 10 cents to every one. The price at the gate will be 15 cents.

Art Condon has had his second operation and has been denied callers for the past several days. He has also been bothered with hiccoughs again. Friends from here hope his recovery will soon be that he can go home.

50 Years Ago The Lowell Ledger March 15, 1962

The drizzling rain which prevailed over the weekend, cut snow depths in the Lowell area and caused the Grand River to rise about six inches. Although the disappearance of the huge snow piles and the peeking of the grass through melted spots are a sight for sore eyes, spring seems to be right around the corner. The rain which turned to light snow flurries on Monday and Tuesday, helped only to complicate the slow melting snow.

After March 5, 1962, a familiar figure will be missing to the many patrons of Rural Route 1. Philip I. Davenport, better known as "Phil or Pappy," will be retiring after 38 years of service as a rural mail carrier. Phil's carrying days began in the "horse and buggy" days with 28 miles on his first route. Since that time his route has increased to 71 miles. During his 38 years of service, he has owned 19 cars and four horses and has traveled approximately 600,000 miles on his routes. "Pappy" is the last of the old post office employees in Lowell to retire.

25 Years Ago Grand Valley Ledger March 18, 1987

Headline: Council votes to shuffle \$92,144.[Former Lowell city manager Ray] Quada explained to the council how \$92,144 of the Community Block Grant money might now be used to help fund the proposed waste water treatment plant. According to Quada, the Community Block Act was recently changed so that with its new provisions, the money could be used to help fund the city's share of the waste water treatment plant... The money had previously been earmarked for sidewalk construction and repair, as well as downtown renovation funding.

For over forty years, Clark Plumbing and Heating has been in business to call if you had a leaky faucet, plugged drain or inoperable furnace. Not so anymore. Dave Clark Jr., owner of the business since 1961, closed the doors at the end of February.



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Letters To The Editor:

The Lowell Ledger welcomes your Letters to the Editor. Letters are required to bear the author's signature, phone number and address (for verification purposes only, not for publication). Letters will be published at the discretion of the publisher. All letters are subject to editing for length and grammar. Thank you letters, advertising or personal attacks will not be printed.

Letters may be submitted via email to: ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com ("to the Editor" in subject line) or dropped off or mailed to: The Lowell Ledger, 105 N. Broadway, Lowell, MI 49331. Also, our website, www.lowellbuyersguide.com has a link to submit emails on the left side of the page.

In The Service

Army Pvt. John A. Ryan has graduated from basic infantry training at Fort Benning, Columbus, Ga.

During the nine weeks of training, the soldier received training in drill and ceremonies, weapons, map reading, tactics, military courtesy, military justice, physical fitness, first aid, and army history, core values and traditions. Addition-

al training included development of basic combat skills and battlefield operations and tactics, and experiencing use of various weapons and weapons defenses available to the infantry crewman.

Ryan is the son of John and Jan Ryan of Ada.

He is a 2011 graduate of Forest Hills Eastern High School, Ada.

Facebook's \$3 billion tax break shows need for reform



Sen. Carl Levin

As we look for ways to reduce the deficit and increase tax fairness, there is more focus in Washington than ever on the need

to close tax loopholes. As someone who has fought for years against unjustified tax loopholes, I'm glad the public is becoming more aware

of just how damaging they can be. Not long ago, I went to the floor of the Senate to tell my colleagues about one example that is helping build momentum for reform.

At the center of this story is a remarkable American business success story: Facebook and its founder, Mark Zuckerberg. As part of that success, Facebook is in the process of making its initial public offering of stock.

According to documents the company has filed as part of its stock offering, when Facebook goes public, Mr. Zuckerberg plans to exercise options to purchase 120 million shares of stock for six cents a share, or about \$7 million. Mr. Zuckerberg's shares, obviously, are going to be worth a great deal more than six cents; they will likely be worth more than 600 times as much, something in the neighborhood of \$5 billion in total.

Here's where the tax loophole comes in. Under current law, Facebook can – perfectly legally – record on the company's financial books that the stock options he received cost the company just pennies a share. But the company can also – perfectly legally – later file a tax return claiming that those same options cost the company something close to the real value of the shares – perhaps \$40 a share. And

the company can take a tax deduction for that far larger amount.

Stock options are the only kind of compensation expense where corporations are allowed to deduct more than the expense they actually incur.

In addition, Facebook is allowed by law to use this deduction to claim a refund of taxes paid over the last two years, a refund the company estimates at half a billion dollars. So instead of paying taxes to the Treasury, this profitable company will claim a hefty refund of taxes already paid.

And the company says it will, as allowed by law, also use its deduction to reduce its taxes for up to 20 years into the future. Altogether, this loophole could give Facebook a tax break of up to \$3 billion and, despite its profits, eliminate its federal income tax bill for years.

Facebook's actions are within the law. As with so much of our tax code, it's not the law-breaking that shocks the conscience, it's the stuff that's perfectly legal.

For years, my Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations has identified this stock option tax loophole and tried to explain its cost, its unfairness, and why

Levin, continued, page 7

health



With Drs. Paul Gauthier, Jim Lang, Wayne A. Christenson III, John G. Meier & Tracy Lixie

preventing falls

Older adults are significantly at risk of falling, but anyone who has had a previous fall, has weak leg muscles or has problems with walking or balance, has a higher risk.

Falls are problematic because they may cause bruises, scrapes or broken bones. The elderly are particularly susceptible to hip fractures and skull injuries after a fall.

Prevention of falls is very important:

- Tell your doctor if you are having problems with your balance or walking, or if you have leg weakness.
- If you need a cane or walker, use it correctly.
- Participate regular-

ly in a group exercise program that includes strength and balance training.

- Get up slowly when you are sitting or lying down.

- Be careful when wearing multifocal glasses and do not wear them while climbing stairs or walking.

To prevent falls in your home:

- Turn on lights in hallways and stairways.
- Be sure that handrails are attached well on both sides of all stairways.
- Move items you can't reach to lower shelves and cabinets.
- Consider using a personal emergency response system, especially if you live alone.

happy birthday!

MARCH 14

Venita Wheeler, Mike Stevens, Dan Baird, Kari Merriman, Chase Peterson, Shannon Lambert, Sara Schoen, Layla Yeiter.

MARCH 18

Bruce Phillips Jr., Chase Treglia, Jim Hacker, Denise (Brenk) Woolfenden.

MARCH 19

Jeremy Barber, Elmer Czapek, Terry B. Abel, Kimberly Dixon, Sean Ellison, Alberta Ryder.

MARCH 15

Daniel Vegter, Ward Boulard Jr., Brett Hobria, Margot Miller.

MARCH 16

Greg Briggs, Louise Weeks.

MARCH 17

Renee Barnes, Logan Landman.



area churches

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(Nursery available)

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Sunday School Hour/ABF's.....11:00 A.M.
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"The Source" Youth: 7:00 p.m.
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621 E. Main Street • 897-5936
www.lowellumc.com
Barrier-free entrance

Worship..... 8:30 & 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School.....9:30
Youth Groups (Jr. & Sr. High).....6:00
Wednesdays
After School Kids' Club.... UNTIL 5:30

Rev. Rick Blunt

college news

Calvin College has announced its fall 2011 dean's list. To earn a spot on the dean's list at Calvin requires a student to maintain at least a 3.5 grade point average for the semester and have at least a 3.3 cumulative grade point average.

Following are local students:

Kyle D. Erffmeyer, Annemaria R. Groenhout, Hannah R. Leisman, Marie E. Mustert, Jessica A.

Vanderveen, Elisabeth L. Hunt, Andrew M. Cooper, Rebecca E. Jasperse, Paulina W. Heule, Samantha R. Reitsma, David A. Evenhouse, Linden E. Brinks, Gregory G. Bylsma, and Rian R. Bylsma, all of Ada; Jaimie J. Diemer, Sarah E. Hubbel, Sondra L. Huisman, Nicholas T. Memmelar, and Charity L. Landrum, all of Alto; and Elena G. Brubaker of Lowell.

BOWNE TOWNSHIP NOTICE

The Bowne Township Board will hold a public hearing on the proposed budget for the fiscal years 2012-13 at the Bowne Township Historic Hall – 8240 Alden Nash SE., Alto, MI 49302 on Monday, March 19, 2012 at 7:30 p.m. **"The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of this hearing."** A copy of the budget is available for public inspection at the Township Office at the above address on Wednesday, Thursday 9am to 12 noon and 1pm to 3pm and Friday 9am to 12 noon.

Sandra L. Kowalczyk
Bowne Township Clerk

Lowell FFA members attend state convention

submitted by
Kevin Nugent,
Lowell FFA advisor

Twenty-two students from the Lowell FFA traveled to East Lansing to receive recognition or compete at the State FFA Convention which was held March 7-9 on the campus of Michigan State University.

Members from Lowell competed in two State FFA Leadership contests. The leadership contests are designed to help the students build teamwork and communication skills in order to make them better leaders and more prepared for the future. In order to qualify

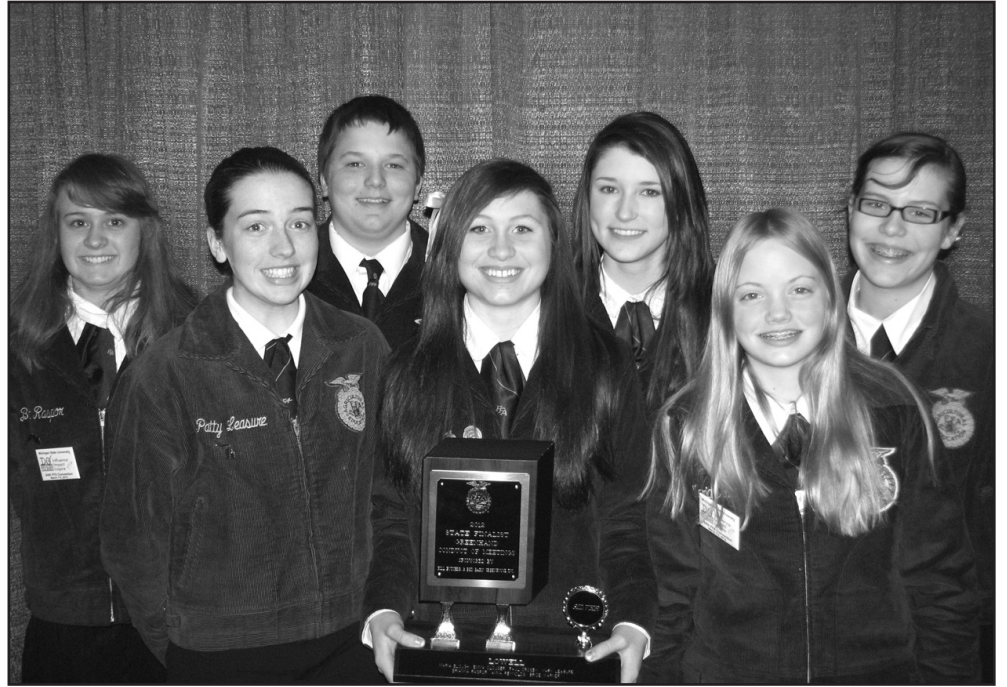
for the state contests, members first had to advance through district and regional contests, finishing in the top two at each level. Lowell had 31 members compete at the district level, 11 advanced to regionals and eight competed at the state contests.

In job interview, Emma Roderick was named the state runner-up, receiving a gold award. In this contest, Roderick had to prepare a resume and cover letter, complete a job application and go through a mock job interview. She placed second out of the 12 individuals

that advanced to the state level.

Freshman students: Maria Blough, Emma Clouser, Paul Crosby, Mary Leasure, Brianna Raspor, Anna Reynolds, and Brice Warner competed in the Greenhand Conduct of Meetings contest. These members had to demonstrate their knowledge of FFA Ceremonies and Parliamentary Procedure by properly and efficiently running a meeting. The team from Lowell finished in fourth place and received a silver award in this contest.

In addition to the leadership contests, individual



The Greenhand Conduct of Meetings team earned a fourth place silver award. Members (front row, left to right) include: Mary Leasure, Brice Warner, and Maria Blough; (back row, left to right) Brianna Raspor, Paul Crosby, Emma Clouser, and Anna Reynolds.



Lowell FFA members that received the State FFA Degree (front row, left to right) were: Cassie Rybicki, Kendra Merriman, Caitlin Clover, and Emma Roderick; (back row, left to right) Katy Mork, Joshua Bartholomew, and Drew Corson.

members were recognized in other award areas.

In the state proficiency awards, Kendra Merriman earned a gold award while Caitlin Clover and Emma Roderick received silver awards. The proficiency awards recognize students that have outstanding Supervised Agricultural Experiences (SAE). Merriman was honored in the beef production category for her work raising and showing Angus cattle on their family farm. Clover was recognized in

the swine production area for raising and showing pigs and Roderick in the small animal production category for her work showing dogs and working at the Puppy Tub.

Seven members from the Lowell Chapter received their State FFA Degree. The State FFA Degree is the highest award that the state association can bestow upon one of its members. Of the

over 5,000 members in the Michigan FFA, just over 300 were chosen to receive this award. The Lowell FFA members that received the award were Joshua Bartholomew, Caitlin Clover, Drew Corson, Kendra Merriman, Katy Mork, Emma Roderick and Cassie Rybicki.

FFA state convention, continued, page 14

Levin, continued

it should be closed. Facebook's \$3 billion tax break brings the issue into sharp focus.

American taxpayers will have to make up for what Facebook's tax deduction costs the Treasury. That \$3 billion will either come out of the pockets of American families now, or it will add to the deficit they will have to pay for later.

What could our nation do with the \$3 billion it will lose when Facebook exploits the stock option loophole? Well, we could reduce the federal deficit. Or we could pay for programs to protect our seniors and veterans, put cops on the beat,

or teachers in classrooms. That money would more than triple the annual budget of the Small Business Administration, which seeks to help American entrepreneurs create jobs and grow the economy.

Some claim Mr. Zuckerberg's taxes will make up the loss, but what the Treasury receives from him on the one hand, it will return and then some to his company with the other hand. Given that his financial future is tied to that of his company, he also benefits when Facebook's taxes disappear.

There is no reason why Facebook and other prof-

itable corporations should continue to use the stock option loophole to receive windfall tax deductions.

In February, I introduced the Cut Unjustified Tax Loopholes Act, or CUT Loopholes Act, with Sen. Conrad, Senate Budget Committee Chairman. Our bill includes provisions, similar to legislation that I have introduced in the past few Congresses, to close the stock option loophole. Under our bill, corporations

would no longer be allowed to claim stock option tax deductions that are larger than the expense they report to their shareholders and investors.

The stock option loophole should have been closed long before Mr. Zuckerberg's lucrative options became public. But surely the case of Facebook illustrates to the Senate, to the Congress, and to the American people why we must close this loophole.

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Betsy Davidson

Business: Addorio Technologies
Residence: Lowell
Education: LHS, 1990; Central Michigan University, 1994 bachelor's in business administration; MSU program in international studies
Experience: Started offering IT support services in 2000 for small to medium size businesses; worked with brother Tony Dommer since 2006
Family: Husband, Matt
Hobbies: Walking, running, being outdoors, bird watching, spending time with niece Sophia and nephew Alex and with the family



Business owner integrates work with volunteer projects

by Emma Palova

Betsy Davidson, owner of Addorio Technologies, does not waste any time. Her day starts at 6:30 am working on Information Technology (IT) projects and it may end with an evening meeting of Lowell Area Recreation Authority (LARA). Apart from her set schedule, Davidson also works on weekends.

She skillfully integrates IT tasks with her passion for community involvement, whether it be the chamber, the trails or the Rotary.

She worked in the prolific IT business for Creative Handling out of Hudsonville from 1995 to 2000. Davidson decided to start her own business, Addorio Technologies, in 2000 after leaving Creative. She named the

business Addorio after her mother's family name that originated in Italy.

Vergennes Township became her first customer, opening a gateway to other municipalities through networking. Creative hired Davidson to do their IT support.

"I thought that was the greatest thing when I first got started," she said.

In 2006, her brother Tony Dommer joined the business.

In the beginning, the biggest challenge was developing a customer base. But, once Davidson got Vergennes Township as a customer, other municipalities came along. For Davidson, joining the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce was critical because of network-

ing capabilities and it also turned into her number one passion.

"The first couple of years were the hardest, mainly developing the relationships," she said. "Then things started falling in place."

To this day, Davidson's top priority remains developing relationships. Addorio has a 90 percent customer retention rate.

Her short-term goals are great customer service through appointments and going through the e-mail box.

The long-term goals in the IT business definitely require a five year strategic plan with a regular review after two months. Figuring out new areas of service is always at the forefront.

"We organize the goals and follow the strategic plan," she said. "We keep updating it."

To achieve the goals and stay up-to-date in the ever changing world of technology, Davidson also does on-line training and reads a lot of books.

Davidson is daily motivated by helping the client, taking care of their issues and fixing it for them.

"We're on call," she said.

One of the greatest efficiencies of recent years has been remote support that enables logging in to the customer's computer from a distant site. This has helped save time and money for both sides.

"It can do more in the day," she said.

Approximately 80 percent of Addorio's IT work is done onsite, as in the case of network issues, installation of software and hardware or printers.

Davidson estimated that her client base breakdown is 40 percent municipalities and 60 percent businesses.

Davidson has built the image of a company that is consistently responsive, knowledgeable and has a caring relationship with the clients.

"That's how we built our base," she said.

And these caring relationships give the business a competitive advantage, as well as giving back to the community through involvement in many different organizations.

The biggest change over the years in the IT area, again, has been the remote support ability to log in to the client's computer to fix the problem.

"Usually it's like we want it fixed now," said Davidson. "Remote support has become more frequent over the years."

Integration of technology and innovations are obvious in the IT industry.

"That's what we do," Davidson said.

IT support accounts for 70 percent of the business, while website design and maintenance makes for the remaining 30 percent.

"I like the mix," she said. "The week is integrat-

ed with work and volunteer projects."

The installation of a server is a big project that requires a review of the equipment needed, changing of the reconfiguration, ordering equipment and implementation, and communication with the customer.

"We want to make sure that we are all on the same page," she said.

The slow economy has forced Addorio to cut various costs, such as advertising, to qualify customers and to do more networking.

"We have gone outside the box and tried other things," she said.

Addorio is a member of the Grand Rapids Chamber of Commerce, an ambassador to the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce, participates in business after hours events, as well as orientation meetings and in breakfast club.

Davidson's future plans include expanding in West Michigan, solidifying customer base and using surveys for feedback.

And what does the future hold for the IT industry? That's literally in the "clouds."

The data may be moved from inside to the "cloud" or third party vendor servers on the Internet.

"You wouldn't have to have a server or backup, but you trust another company to do that," she said.

The solution is not right for everybody, but it works for companies with multiple locations. Integrating MAC into PC networks is another innovation.

A good day for Davidson is being able to fix all the customers' problems and issues, as well as keeping appointments to a certain length and good weather due to a lot of travel.

On the other hand, a bad day is when AT&T or another Internet provider cuts a line and everything goes down.

"You can't fix everything, but you're doing your best to fix it," she said.

Sometimes, Davidson has to wait for other vendors before she can move forward.

"The ultimate goal is to

keep the client running and happy," she said.

On the question of community involvement, Davidson could talk for hours. It is just as important as her work. She divides her passion between the chamber, the trails and the Rotary.

"I feel the chamber has a huge impact on Lowell," Davidson said.

She has been a chamber board member since 2007. Davidson co-chairs, along with April McClure, the Riverwalk; during Christmas activities she helps with the cookie room on the Showboat. She is also an ambassador for the chamber.

"I love Santa visits," she said.

For the second year in a row, Davidson helped out with the poker tournament at Larkin's Other Place to raise money for the chamber.

"I hand out chips and take in money," she said.

Davidson has been a board member of LARA since 2004 and she was a member of the original committee that formed the authority 12 years ago.

She has been a member of the Rotary since 2004 and on the board since 2008. In June of 2011, she went to Ethiopia, visited an orphanage and the Rotary raised \$20,000 to drill a well that provides water for 4,000 people.

Davidson will become the Rotary president for 2013/2014, while Jim White will become the governor for the Rotary District 6290.

Davidson has been organizing a fundraiser every year for the past 10 years for the National Multiple Sclerosis (MS) Society called the MS Day at the Lake. The family and friends ride bikes around the Big Croke Lake; they have team competitions.

"We eat and have a great time," she said.

To date, they have raised more than \$33,000 for the National MS Society.

"This is something that we are all very proud of," she said.

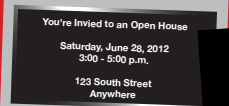
Davidson firmly believes in teamwork and giving back.



Betsy Davidson exports data on a computer at the city hall.

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Red Arrow SPORTS

- BASKETBALL

Arrows end the season at districts

by Karen Jack

The boys' basketball team lost in the second round of districts to Grand Rapids Northview last Wednesday night, 59-46.

Lowell won the jump ball at the beginning of the game, but shot and missed,

then turned around and forced a turnover from Northview. Northview then stole the ball and scored two. On Lowell's possession, they turned over the ball and Northview scored a three-point shot. Blake Ly-

man was then fouled going up for a shot and sunk one free throw, making the score 5-1. Northview shot and missed and Lowell answered with a three-point basket from Lyman, making the score 5-4. North-

view then outscored Lowell 11-9 to end the first quarter with a score of 16-13.

At the beginning of the second quarter, Lowell forced a Northview turnover and capitalized on that by scoring two, to pull within one point. But Northview responded with four points of their own. Lowell's Grant Noskey then sunk one basket and then got fouled on his next shot, making two free throws to keep Lowell within one point. Northview scored another 13 points to Lowell's 12, going in the locker room at halftime with a score of 33-25.

In the third quarter, Lowell lost a little more ground being outscored by Northview 16-9.

With the score 49-34 going into the fourth quarter, Lowell fouled Northview on a shot and they were only able to make one point. Lowell responded with six points in a row from Alec Roerig, Justin Castro and Kyle Rogers, making the score 49-40. Each team scored four more points each and then Rogers stole the ball, passing it down the court to Roerig for a quick two. Lowell fouled Northview on a shot and then a small scuffle happened between Roerig and a Northview player. The players lined up on the free throw line and Northview made one basket. The referee then called a technical foul on Roerig, allowing another three points to be made by Northview with 1:07 left on the clock. Lowell ran out of time and ended up losing the game.

High scorers were Rogers with 13 points and Lyman with 12 points.



Blake Lyman goes up for a shot.



Justin Castro drives around his opponent.

Lowell places five at states in power lifting

- POWER LIFTING

by Karen Jack

The Lowell power lifting team's first year of competition was quite successful, qualifying six team members for the Michigan High School power lifting state finals on Saturday, March 10 at Lake Orion High School. The state tournament consisted of over 220 athletes, from over 50 Michigan high schools, competing in 13 different weight classes. Of the six that qualified, five placed.

This is the first year of competition since the team faded away in 2008 and coaches, Tom Kaywood and Keith Huston, are hopeful to have a full year of both individual and team competition next year. "This year, we only did one meet before the qualifying regionals, as this is brand new to many of us," commented Kaywood. "We had a great day at the state finals, considering this is our first year back."

The Lowell lifters competed in three events, including squat, bench and dead lift. The highest weight

from each of the three events went towards their total weight. Their total weight was used to determine their final placement.

Taking second place at the 132 lbs. weight class was Brady Schaefer, with a total weight in all three events of 770 lbs. Alex Kaminski placed fourth, lifting a total weight of 1015 lbs. in the 181 lb. weight class. Kyle Blough took fifth place at the 155 lb. weight class with a total weight of 900 lbs. Jeff Houston cashed in at ninth place in the 181 lb. weight class, with 935 lbs. Lifting 945 lbs. in the 165 lb. weight class was Zack Kaywood, garnering him tenth place.

"I see the participation level in power lifting at Lowell increasing as the benefit to other sports is seen by the student athletes. Our goal next year is to not only qualify more kids, but to be able to participate in the state team event," added Kaywood.



Kyle Blough



Alex Kaminski



Still accepting registrations!!

Deadline for 9-10 boys, 9-10 girls, 11-12 boys, 11-12 girls, 13-14 boys is this *Wednesday, March 15th.*

Early Bird deadline for EDL (4, 5, 6 year olds) and 7-8 year olds is *Monday, March 25th.*

For more information visit www.llmi.com or contact lowelllittleleague@gmail.com.

2011 WATER QUALITY REPORT FOR CITY OF LOWELL AND LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP

This report covers the drinking water quality for The City of Lowell and Lowell Township Water for the calendar year 2011. This information is a snapshot of the quality of the water that we provided to you in 2011. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state standards.

Your water comes from 4 groundwater wells, each over 87 feet in depth, drawing from the Grand River watershed. They are located at 1596 Bowes Road in Lowell behind the water plant. The State performed an assessment of our source water in 2003 to determine the susceptibility or the relative potential of contamination. The susceptibility rating is on a seven-tiered scale from "very-low" to "very-high" based primarily on geologic sensitivity, water chemistry and contaminant sources. The susceptibility of our source is moderate. (See Table 1.) We have no significant sources of contamination. We are making efforts to protect our sources by maintaining a wellhead protection program. A copy of the full Source Water Assessment can be obtained by contacting Brian VanVeelen at the Lowell Water Treatment Plant, 1596 Bowes Rd., Lowell, MI 49331 or call at 616-897-5234.

Contaminants and their presence in water: Drinking Water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Vulnerability of sub-populations: Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Sources of drinking water: The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. Our water comes from wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.

Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.

Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture and residential uses.

Radioactive contaminants, which are naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also, come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.

Water Quality Data

The table above right lists all the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the 2011 calendar year. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done January 1 – December 31, 2011. The State allows us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. All of the data is representative of the water quality, but some are more than one year old.

| Low / High Sample Date Violation Yes / No | [MRDLG]Level Detected | | [RAA]Range | | Sample Date | Violation | Typical Source of Contaminant |
|---|-----------------------|-------|------------|---------------|-------------|-----------|---|
| | MCL | MCLG | RAA | Highest Level | | | |
| | 10 | 10 | 1.2 | | 08/01/11 | No | Run off from fertilizer use and erosion of natural resources |
| Total Trihalomethanes (ppm) | 0.080 | 0.080 | 0.0037 | | 08/01/11 | No | Organic and chlorination by-products |
| Fluoride (ppm) | 4 | 4 | 0.87 | | 08/01/11 | No | Erosion of natural deposits. Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories |

| Date Violation Yes/No | Alpha emitters | | Sample Date | Violation | Typical Source of Contaminant | |
|--------------------------|----------------|------|-------------|-----------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| | MCL | MCLG | | | | |
| | 15 | 0 | <3 | 10/31/00 | No | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Ra226/228 (pCi/L) | 5 | None | <1 | 5/13/03 | No | Erosion of natural deposits |

| Unregulated Contaminant ** | Single Sample Test | Range | Sample Date | Typical Special Monitoring and Source of Contaminant |
|----------------------------|--------------------|-------|-------------|--|
| Sodium (ppm) | 13 | | 01/01/11 | Erosion of natural deposits |

Contaminant Subject to AL Action Level 90% of Samples ≤ This Level Sample Date
Number of Samples Above AL Typical Source of Contaminant
 Lead (ppb) 15 < 0.003 NA 7/14/100 Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
 Copper (ppb) 1300 < 0.010 NA 7/14/100 Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives

Terms and abbreviations used:

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

N/A: Not applicable **ND:** not detectable at testing limit **ppb:** parts per billion or micrograms per liter **ppm:** parts per million or milligrams per liter **pCi/l:** picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity).

Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

Maximum residual disinfectant level (MRDL)

Maximum residual disinfectant level goal (MRDLG)

Running annual average (RAA)

LEAD: If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The City of Lowell is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, testing methods and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800-426-4791 or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

** Unregulated contaminants are those for which EPA has not established drinking water standards. Monitoring helps EPA to determine where certain contaminants occur and whether it needs to regulate those contaminants.

| Microbial Contaminants | MCL | | MCLG | | Number Detected | Violation | Typical Source of Contaminant |
|--|-----|------|------|------|-----------------|-----------|--------------------------------------|
| | MCL | MCLG | MCL | MCLG | | | |
| 1 positive monthly sample (5% of monthly samples positive) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | No | | Naturally present in the environment |
| Fecal Coliform and E. coli | | | | | No | | Human and animal fecal waste |

2011 WATER QUALITY REPORT FOR CITY OF LOWELL AND LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP, CONTINUED

**Table 1
Distribution System Regulated Contaminant
Source Water Assessment**

| Sample point | Test Result | Analyte Name | Tested | Limit MCL | Rpt Limit |
|----------------|-------------|-------------------------------|---------|-----------|-------------|
| Plant Tap | 0.0037 mg/l | Max Potential Trihalomethanes | 8/02/11 | 0.08 mg/l | 0.0004 mg/l |
| Sample Hydrant | 0.0150 mg/l | Max Potential Trihalomethanes | 8/02/11 | 0.08 mg/l | 0.0004 mg/l |

| Chlorine (ppm) | J | F | M | A | M | J | J | A | S | O | N | D |
|--------------------------------|------|------|------|-------|------|------|------|------|-------|-------|------|-------|
| Bacteriological sample site #1 | 0.50 | | | | 0.51 | 0.48 | 0.43 | 0.40 | 0.42 | 0.40 | 0.53 | 0.53 |
| Bacteriological sample site #2 | 0.40 | 0.26 | 0.38 | 0.36 | 0.37 | 0.17 | 0.10 | 0.18 | 0.25 | 0.32 | 0.39 | 0.43 |
| Bacteriological sample site #3 | 0.49 | 0.52 | 0.50 | 0.50 | 0.47 | 0.42 | 0.37 | 0.49 | 0.40 | 0.44 | 0.47 | 0.41 |
| Monthly average of samples | 0.46 | 0.38 | 0.44 | 0.43 | 0.39 | 0.36 | 0.30 | 0.29 | 0.32 | 0.38 | 0.44 | 0.43 |
| RAA computed quarterly | | | | 0.402 | | | | | 0.399 | 0.391 | | 0.385 |
| RAA 2011 quarterly | | | | 0.402 | | | | | 0.399 | 0.391 | | 0.385 |
| RAA 2011 | | | | 0.402 | | | | | 0.399 | 0.391 | | 0.385 |

CHLORINE RESIDUALS:

“Maximum residual disinfectant level, or MRDL (4.0mg/l), means the highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.”

“Maximum residual disinfectant level goal, or MRDLG (4.0mg/l), means the level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.”

“RAA is the running annual average”. Previous Year 2010

| Chlorine (ppm) | J | F | M | A | M | J | J | A | S | O | N | D |
|--------------------------------|---|---|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|---|
| Bacteriological sample site #1 | | | 0.56 | 0.53 | 0.53 | 0.38 | 0.44 | 0.53 | 0.54 | 0.51 | 0.56 | |
| Bacteriological sample site #2 | | | 0.19 | 0.16 | 0.24 | 0.16 | 0.12 | 0.28 | 0.35 | 0.38 | 0.36 | |
| Bacteriological sample site #3 | | | 0.50 | 0.41 | 0.53 | 0.38 | 0.43 | 0.31 | 0.42 | 0.38 | 0.49 | |
| Monthly average of samples | | | 0.42 | 0.36 | 0.43 | 0.31 | 0.33 | 0.37 | 0.43 | 0.42 | 0.47 | |

Year Covered by the CCR 2011

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which provide the same protection for public health.

Monitoring and Reporting Requirements: The State and EPA require us to test our water on a regular basis to ensure its safety. We met all monitoring and reporting requirements for 2011.

We will update this report annually and will keep you informed of any problems that may occur throughout the year, as they happen. Copies are available at Lowell City Hall, 301 East Main, Lowell, Michigan and at Lowell Township Offices, 2910 Alden Nash S.E., Lowell, Michigan. This report will not be sent to you.

We invite public participation in decisions that affect drinking water quality. Lowell City Council meetings are held on the first and third Mondays of the month at 7:30pm in the Council Chambers at Lowell City Hall, 301 E. Main, Lowell,MI. Lowell Township meetings are held at 7:00pm on the first and third Mondays of each month at the Lowell Township Hall, 2910 Alden Nash S.E., Lowell, MI. For more information about your water, or the contents of this report, contact Brian VanVeelen at 897-5234. For more information about safe drinking water, visit the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency at www.epa.gov/safewater/.

Lowell Charter Township Chlorine Residuals

Previous Year-2010

| Chlorine (ppm) | J | F | M | A | M | J | J | A | S | O | N | D |
|-----------------------------------|---|---|---|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Bacteriological Site #1 | | | | | 0.29 | 0.18 | | | | 0.25 | 0.3 | 0.23 |
| Bacteriological Site #2 | | | | 0.51 | 0.42 | 0.38 | 0.34 | 0.31 | 0.31 | 0.42 | 0.39 | 0.29 |
| Bacteriological Site #3 | | | | 0.44 | 0.3 | 0.23 | 0.24 | 0.26 | 0.18 | 0.21 | 0.26 | 0.22 |
| Bacteriological Site #4 | | | | 0.39 | 0.2 | 0.19 | 0.17 | 0.2 | 0.17 | 0.29 | 0.3 | 0.36 |
| Source Water | | | | 0.57 | 0.06 | 0.51 | 0.51 | 0.55 | 0.6 | 0.44 | 0.56 | 0.53 |
| Monthly Average of Samples | | | | 0.48 | 0.25 | 0.30 | 0.32 | 0.33 | 0.32 | 0.32 | 0.36 | 0.33 |

Year Covered by the CCR-2011

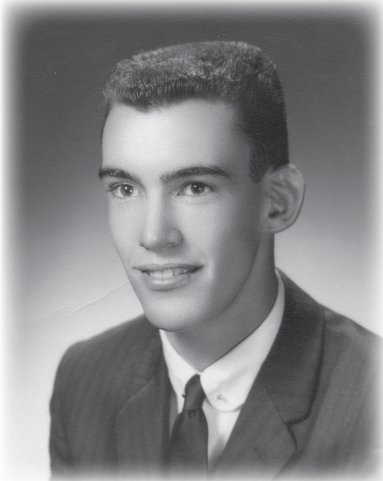
| Chlorine (ppm) | J | F | M | A | M | J | J | A | S | O | N | D |
|-----------------------------------|------|------|-------|------|------|-------|------|------|-------|------|------|-------|
| Bacteriological Site #1 | 0.37 | 0.49 | 0.5 | | 0.36 | 0.35 | | | 0.24 | 0.1 | 0.3 | 0.45 |
| Bacteriological Site #2 | 0.5 | | 0.53 | 0.5 | 0.45 | 0.45 | 0.53 | 0.41 | | 0.46 | 0.36 | 0.49 |
| Bacteriological Site #3 | 0.5 | 0.48 | 0.49 | 0.29 | 0.41 | 0.37 | 0.31 | 0.24 | 0.23 | | 0.39 | 0.58 |
| Bacteriological Site #4 | 0.48 | 0.42 | 0.45 | 0.42 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.31 | 0.28 | 0.32 | 0.31 | 0.34 | 0.45 |
| Source Water | 0.59 | 0.59 | 0.57 | 0.62 | 0.57 | 0.62 | 0.55 | 0.58 | 0.59 | 0.57 | 0.56 | 0.53 |
| Monthly Average of Samples | 0.49 | 0.50 | 0.51 | 0.46 | 0.44 | 0.42 | 0.43 | 0.38 | 0.35 | 0.36 | 0.39 | 0.50 |
| RAA Computed Quarterly | | | 0.376 | | | 0.373 | | | 0.467 | | | 0.436 |

obituaries

KYSER

Charles Ellis Kyser went to be with the Lord on March 7, 2012. He was born on March 3, 1944, in Lake Odessa to Gerald and Frances Margaret (Ellis) Kyser. Charlie was a 1962 graduate of Lowell High. He retired from General Motors after 45 years.

Charles is survived by his wife, Marsha; daughters, Shelia Kyser-Barnes, Gerri (Kristopher) Graham, Kara Kyser, and Kiley Kyser; grandchildren, Ravyn, India, Morgan and Bret; and sisters, Kathy Roush, Diana Roush, Carolyn Manion, and Liz Callihan. Funeral service will be Monday, March 19 at 11 am at Redeemer United Methodist Church, 13980 Schavey Road, Dewitt, with Pastor Rodney Kalajainen officiating. Visitation will be Sunday, 2-4 pm and 6-8 pm at Tiffany Funeral Home, 3232 W. Saginaw Street, Lansing. A service will be held at 11 am on Tuesday, March 20 at South Boston Bible Church, Lowell, with Pastor Robert Roush officiating. Interment will follow. Friends may visit the guest book at www.tiffanyfuneralhome.com. Memorials preferred to Redeemer Church Camp Scholarship Fund, Oak Park YMCA Open Arms Campaign or Oldsmobile Outdoor Club for the Fort Custer Freedom Hunt. Arrangements under the direction of Tiffany Funeral Home, 517-321-2211.



McCLURE

Betty L. McClure, age 84, formerly of Lowell, passed away Sunday, March 11, 2012. She was preceded in death by her husband, Gerald. She is survived by her children, Steven McClure and Christine Carocci both of Portland, OR; and many nieces and nephews in Michigan. Betty was the youngest of 13 siblings and half-siblings and was born on July 2, 1927, in White Cloud. Her mother died when Betty was only four years old, so she was raised by her widower father as she grew up, swimming in the mill pond and making good grades in school. Betty worked at the Gerber Baby Foods plant in Fremont, before venturing into the big city of Grand Rapids. She graduated with honors from the Grand Rapids College of Stenotype in 1948 and worked in that field for a short time after graduation. In 1948, she married Gerald R. McClure and on 7/1/50 their son, Steven, was born. A daughter, Christine, completed the family with her arrival on 7/4/51. In the early sixties, the family moved to Simi, in southern California, where Jerry worked as a guidance system engineering technician on the Apollo space program's "race to the moon," accomplished in July 1969. Betty was a homemaker while the kids attended junior high school. Upon the family's return to Michigan in the mid-sixties, the McClure family built their own brick house on ten acres near Grand Rapids, in Lowell Township. Betty was employed by the Amway Corporation for over 20 years until she retired in 1988. After Jerry died in the spring of 2008, Betty moved to Oregon to be with her kids. Steven, a retired doctor, is writing a book on Lewis & Clark. Christine is an administrative assistant in the dermatology department at Oregon Health & Science University. Funeral service will be Sunday at 2:00 pm at Roth-Gerst Chapel, 305 N. Hudson, Lowell, with visitation one hour prior. Memorial contributions may be made to Alzheimer's Association, 2944 Fuller Ave. NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49505. Arrangements provided by Roth-Gerst, 305 N. Hudson, Lowell, Michigan 49331.



McIVER

Rev. M. Keith McIver, age 93, went home to be with his Lord and Savior Saturday, March 10, 2012. Keith was preceded in death by his wife, Cora, on April 29, 2009. He will be deeply missed by his children, Rose Elynn (Emerson) Van Buren, Dorothy (Dave) Englund, Duane (Sadie) McIver, and Carol (Jim) Makowske; grandchildren, Duane (Robin) Van Buren, Scott (Angela) Van Buren, Kevin Van Buren, Michael (Aimee) Van Buren, Chris (Perry) Cheatham, Melissa (Nathan) Kline, Becky (Kevin) Vreugdenhil, Angela Winters, Scott (Melissa) Englund, Jeffery (Stacey) Englund, Heidi (Jason) Ream, Melinda (Bob) Barnhart, Lyndee (Bob Connor) Bruinekool, Dawne (John) Swanson, Nathan (Jennifer) Makowske, and Coral (fiancée Jason Lepper) Makowske; 37 great-grandchildren; and brother-in-law, Art Acton. Funeral services are being held Wednesday, March 14 at 1:00 pm at his church, Highland Hills Baptist, 1415 Northrup Ave. NW, with Rev. Larry Mattis and Rev. Dave Lamb officiating. Interment will be at Fairplains Cemetery. His family expresses a heart felt "thank you" to the staff at Rest Haven Homes for their loving care given to Keith. Contributions in memory of Keith may be made to Rest Haven Homes, 1424 Union Ave. NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49505. Arrangements provided by Cook Funeral Home.

THEEL

Gregory Paul Theel, age 51, went to be with his Lord Wednesday, March 7, 2012. He was preceded in death by his parents, Norman and Alice. He is survived by his wife of 24 years, Sue; children, Tracie (Ian McRae) Theel, Bradley Theel; stepfather, Don (Sharon) Lawrence; brother, Tom (Becky) Theel; sisters, Sue (Stan) Hoorstra, Lori (Pat) Cole; and mother-in-law, Jane Watters. Greg enjoyed kayaking, movies and spending time with his family. Funeral service was held Sunday at Roth-Gerst Chapel. Pastor James Bowen officiating. Memorial contributions may be made to American Heart Association, 3816 Paysphere Circle, Chicago, IL 60674-0001. Arrangements provided by Roth-Gerst, 305 N. Hudson, Lowell, Michigan 49331.



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VERGENNES TOWNSHIP

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING AND BUDGET HEARING

The residents of Vergennes Township will hold an Annual Meeting on Monday, March 19, 2012, at 6:30 p.m., followed by the Regular March Board Meeting at 7. There will be opportunity for residents to comment on any issue regarding the state of the township. The proposed 2012-13 budget will be reviewed and considered for adoption during the Regular Meeting. Copies of the proposed budget are available at the Township offices.

The Annual Meeting, Budget Hearing and Regular Meeting will all be held at the township offices located at the intersection of Bailey Drive and Parnell Road, address of 10381 Bailey Drive, Lowell, MI 49331.

Mari C. Stone
Vergennes Township Clerk

www.gerstfuneralhomes.com

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| 1 | 4 | 8 | 3 | 2 | 6 | 9 | 5 | 7 |
| 2 | 6 | 9 | 4 | 5 | 7 | 8 | 1 | 3 |
| 3 | 7 | 5 | 1 | 9 | 8 | 2 | 4 | 6 |

office hours:
Mon.-Thurs. 8 a.m.- 5 p.m.
Fri. 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.
closed Sat. & Sun.

classifieds

for sale

CENTRAL BOILER OUT-DOORWOODFURNACES - Limited time offer. Instant rebates up to \$1,145. Call SOS your "Stocking Dealer" Dutton, MI 616-554-8669 or 616-915-5061.

MATTRESSSETS - All new Euro pillowtop, Queen \$139; plush top set, Twin \$125, Full \$135, Queen \$159, King \$199 & up; **MEMORY FOAM** Cool Gel, I-Comfort, retail \$1,299, wholesale \$699; **ADJUSTABLE BED**, \$800; **BUNKBEDS**, \$199 & up; **WATERBEDS**, \$65 & up. 682-4767.

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BOB'S 15TH ANNUAL SPRING BIRDHOUSE SALE - Be an "early bird" & get your houses & feeders from the great selection we have on hand - bluebird & wren houses, bath houses, bird feeders, entertaining squirrel feeders. New this year - wood duck nesting boxes for your creek or pond area. Several on hand, taking orders. All solid cedar built to last for many years. Best prices anywhere. Bob's Birdhouses, 12279 60th St., Alto. 868-6633.

for sale

FREE AD! - Place & pay for a classified ad in the Buyers Guide & Lowell Ledger for 3 weeks & receive the 4th week FREE! You must mention the special in order to receive this offer. Valid only with new classified ads, and must be paid for when ad is placed. Call 897-9555, fax 897-4809 or email to: classifieds@lowellbuyersguide.com, 105 N. Broadway, Lowell. Ph. 897-9261.

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ENTRY LEVEL FACTORY POSITION - \$9.50 starting rate, full medical, dental & vision after 30 days, 1st shift, Kentwood location. Call 616-974-9165.

NEWSPAPER END ROLLS AVAILABLE AT THE BUYERS GUIDE OFFICE - Many uses! 105 N. Broadway.

misc.

CONCEALED CARRY CLASS - offered by Pfaller Firearms LLC & Tri-Town Conservation Club will be held March 26 & 31. For more information email jamespfaller@gmail.com

REGISTER NOW - for the 4th Annual Tal Hanline Memorial Flat River Youth Turkey Hunt sponsored by Purk's Exxon-Mobil Convenience Stores. FREE to kids age 16 and under. 40 hunter limit. Call 616-902-8792 or on Facebook at Flat River Youth Turkey Hunt.

for rent

ROOM FOR RENT - Large sleeping room with private shower, kitchenette area, and private bathroom is available monthly. Located in a pleasant semi rural area between Ada and Lowell, in a private home. Includes Internet access, cable TV, heat & A/C. The room is partially furnished. Washer and dryer use is available. References required. Off street parking provided. Rent is \$340 monthly. Ideal home away from home for a business or professional person. Please call 897-7691.

HALL FOR RENT - Lowell Veteran's Center, 3100 Alden Nash. Newly remodeled, smoke-free, private, great location & great rate! www.vfw8303.org. Also for those interested in dance classes at the post. Call John at 299-0486 or 897-8303.TFN

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LOWELL - Nice clean 3 bedroom home in country, big yard. No pets. No tobacco. Please call 616-897-7203 evenings/weekends.

card of thanks

THANK YOU Greg VanStrien, for both your rapid response to my call and the solution of my plumbing problem. Richard

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ESTATE/MOVING SALE - Appliances, 3 air cond., tools & lots more. Friday, 3/16, 9-6 & Sat., 3/17, 9-1 with 50% off. 1631 Stonewood Dr (2 miles west of Meijer, north of M-21).

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ADULT FOSTER CARE HOME - has openings near Lowell. Great care, reasonable rates. Shuck Care Home, 987-3158.

services

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WEDDING INVITATIONS

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Coming Events

PLEASE NOTE - Coming Events are for non-profit organizations. If you are charging admission for an event - it is considered an advertisement. Coming events are ran on a space available basis & **ARE NOT GUARANTEED TO RUN.** If you would like to make sure your event is placed in the paper, please call our office & place it as a classified ad. We will not run ANY Garage or Rummage Sales as a coming event. All Coming Events or changes to coming events should be submitted by fax: 897-4809, email: classifieds@lowellbuyersguide.com, by mail: PO Box 128, Lowell, MI 49331 or in person: 105 N. Broadway, Lowell.

WINTER READING - ends Sat., Mar. 31. Turn in your completed punch cards by end of day at Saranac Public Library, 61 Bridge St., Saranac. 616-642-9146.

NEW CLASSES FOR EVERYONE - children - adults at Christian Life Center, 3050 Alden Nash SE, Lowell. Every Wednesday 7-8 p.m. Bible-centered classes for children through 5th grade, youth group for 6th grade thru high school & adult prayer & Bible study. Everyone is invited to attend.

MOMS IN TOUCH INTERNATIONAL - Thursdays 9 a.m. - 10 a.m. at Friendship Country Chapel, 10200 Grand River Ave. Moms & grandmas come pray for our kids & schools. Contact Missy at 308-7920 or missykooistra@gmail.com with any questions.

ORIGAMI - Each Tuesday, 2-3 p.m. Learn the ancient art of paper folding. Gilda's Club - Lowell Clubhouse, 314 S. Hudson, Lowell.

CANCER - KIDS & TWEEN TALK GROUP - First & third Tuesdays, 5:30 - 7 p.m. A

committed group for children in first - eighth grade on a cancer journey. Incorporates curriculum-based activities, discussion & fun. Gilda's Club - Lowell Clubhouse, 314 S. Hudson, Lowell.

KNITTING 101 - Every Wed., 10 a.m. - noon, Saranac Public Library, 61 Bridge St., Saranac. 616-642-9146.

GRIEF - ADULT GROUP - Each Tuesday, 6 - 7:15 p.m. A committed group for adults who have experienced the death of a family member or friend. Gilda's Club - Lowell Clubhouse, 314 S. Hudson, Lowell.

GRIEF - KIDS GROUP - Second & fourth Tuesdays, 5:30 - 7 p.m. A committed group for children in first - fourth grade on a grief journey. Incorporates curriculum-based activities, discussion & fun. Gilda's Club - Lowell Clubhouse, 314 S. Hudson, Lowell.

GRIEF - NEW MEMBER MEETING - Call the clubhouse to schedule your introductory meeting for grief support groups. Gilda's Club - Lowell Clubhouse, 314 S. Hudson, Lowell, 897-8600.

TEEN GROUP - CANCER AND GRIEF - First & third Tuesdays, 5:30 - 7 p.m. A committed group for teens in ninth - twelfth grade on a cancer or grief journey. Incorporates curriculum-based activities & discussion. Gilda's Club - Lowell Clubhouse, 314 S. Hudson, Lowell.

MOTHERS WHO HAVE OR HAVE HAD - sons/daughters serving in the military. We are meeting on the 3rd Wednesday of every month. For more info call Sally 616-761-2042.

NOOGIELAND - Tuesdays 5:30 - 7 p.m. Supervised play for children kindergarten or younger. Gilda's Club - Lowell Clubhouse, 314 S. Hudson, Lowell, 897-8600. www.gildasclubgr.org/pinkarrow

LOWELL AREA PRAYER & HEALING ROOMS - located in the FROM building, 11535 Fulton Street, most Monday evenings, 6-8 p.m. Christian Scripture based. No cost or fees, no appointment necessary, confidentiality respected.

TOTS PLAYGROUP - Meets every Tues., Wed. & Thurs. at Bushnell Elementary, 700 Elizabeth, Lowell. 8:30 a.m. or 10 a.m. Meeting at Alto Elementary, 6150 Bancroft, Alto on Thursdays at 10 a.m. For more info contact Lori at TOTS, 987-2532.

KENT COUNTY NARFE GROUP - for retired & current federal employees meet the 2nd Thursday at Trinity Lutheran Church, 2700 E. Fulton, 1/2 mile west of E. Beltline. Potluck at 12:30 p.m. & meeting begins at 1:30 p.m. Call Ed Moore for time, 616-784-6716.

ALTO LIONS CLUB - Meets 1st & 3rd Thursday at 7 p.m. at Keiser's Kitchen.

COFFEE WITH THE COUNCIL - Come meet & have a cup of coffee with your city councilmembers. First Saturday of each month at the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce office, 113 Riverwalk Plaza, Lowell. 8 a.m. - 10 a.m.

CIVIL AIR PATROL - Meets the second & fourth Tues. of the month, 6 p.m., Benz Aviation Building at Ionia Airport, teen/adult programs available, Call Shawna, 616-430-1348 or visit online <http://mi222.miwg-cap.org>

KIDS TALK - Every Tues., in 1st - 4th grade on a cancer or grief journey. Incorporates curriculum-based activities, discussion & playtime. Gilda's Club - Lowell Clubhouse, 314 S. Hudson, Lowell, 897-8600.

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FFA state convention, continued

In order to be considered for the state degree, students have to show that they have worked on a Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) and have been active in the FFA. A student's SAE project combines the information learned in the agriscience classes with the leadership experiences in the FFA. The SAE is tailored to the student's interests in agriculture. These projects can range from fair animals to jobs to community service activities. In order to qualify for the state degree, the student has to document that they have either earned \$2000 from their project,

spent at least 450 hours on the project, or a combination of the two.

After the state degree applications are scored, the top applications are pulled to be considered for the star award, the best student projects in four areas: production, placement, agribusiness and agriscience. Kendra Merriman was selected as a finalist for the star in ag. production and received a gold state degree award for being named one of the top five production SAE projects in the state.

The outstanding junior award was given to four students from Lowell. The requirements for the outstand-

ing junior award are similar to the state degree but with lower numbers. Students who received the award were Sarah Crosby, Jacey Culross, Olivia Kauffman and John Mark.

The State FFA band and choir performed during the convention sessions with members from Lowell participating in both. The State FFA band, which is directed by former Lowell Middle School band director Dale Latva, included Emma Blough and Maria Blough. Cassie Rybicki represented Lowell in the State FFA choir.

Kaitlyn Johnson, Sarah Misak and Jayme Peterson were selected to serve as delegates at the state convention. As delegates, they were responsible for voting for any constitutional amendments and electing the new State FFA officers. The delegates also visited the state capitol where they met with different legislators and sat in on a session of both the House and Senate.

In addition to the members that attended the state convention, Lowell's Sara Fosburg was completing her term as the Region V State vice president. As a state officer, Sara has spent the past year conducting chapter visits and facilitating leadership conferences with the 11 other state officers. Although she still has three months left in her year of service, the focus is putting on the state convention. In addition to presenting awards to the members, Sara gave her retiring address where she encouraged the convention attendees to keep striving for their goals no matter what

obstacles may be in the way. FFA is a national youth leadership organization that strives to make a positive

difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and

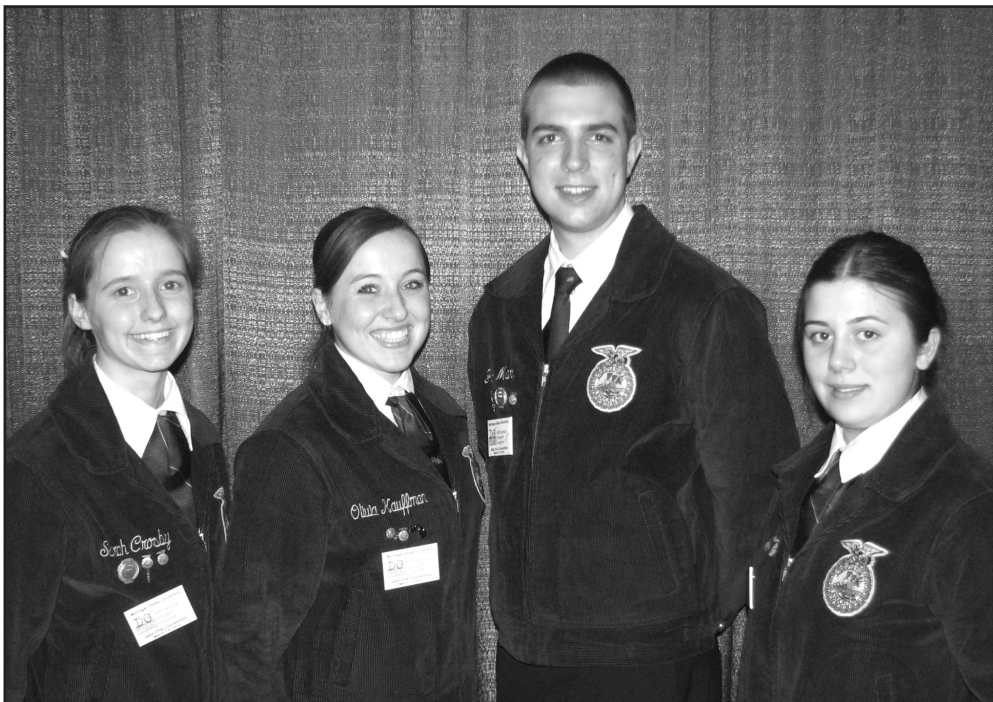
career success through agricultural education. The Lowell FFA has over 100 members in grades 7-12.



Emma Roderick finished as the state runner-up in the State FFA Job Interview contest.



Representing Lowell in the State FFA band were (left) Maria Blough and (right) Emma Blough, pictured with the State FFA band director, Mr. Dale Latva.



Receiving the outstanding junior award from Lowell (left to right) were: Sarah Crosby, Olivia Kauffman, John Mark, and Jacey Culross.

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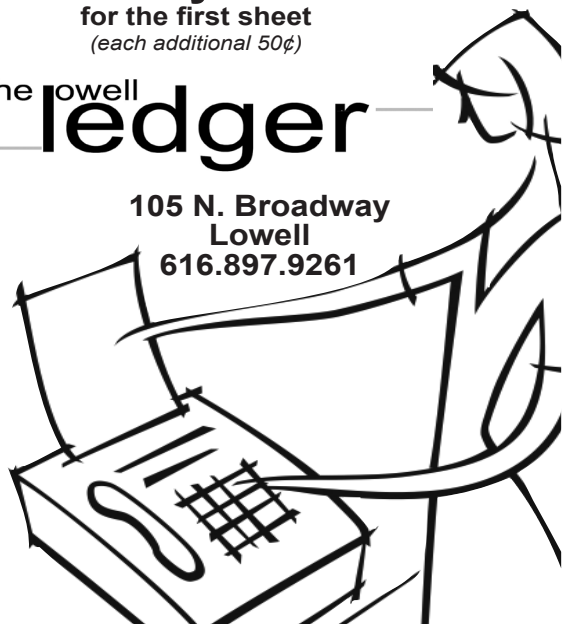
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STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF KENT

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Decedent's Estate

FILE NO. 12-191771-DE

Estate of FREDERICK F. KLAMPFERER, deceased. Date of birth: 01/22/1920.

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Frederick F. Klampferer, died 02/13/2012.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be

LEGAL NOTICES

forever barred unless presented to Frederick F. Klampferer Jr., named personal representative or proposed personal representative, or to both the probate court at 180 Ottawa Avenue NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49503 and the named/proposed personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

3/6/2012

John T. Conroy (P43709)
410 Bridge St. NW
Grand Rapids, MI 49504
616-454-4119

Frederick F. Klampferer Jr.
7070 Dutton Ave.
Caledonia, MI 49316
616-554-3625

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF KENT

PUBLICATION OF NOTICE OF HEARING

FILE NO. 12-191820-GA

In the matter of JAMES L. WARREN.

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS including: TONI WARREN and THERESA WHITE whose address(es) are unknown and whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following:

TAKENOTICE: A hearing will be held on March

30, 2012 at 9:00 am at 180 Ottawa Avenue NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49503 before Judge David M. Murkowski (P35026) for the following purpose: on the petition of Leslie Patten for the appointment of a Limited Guardian for James L. Warren.

03/08/2012

John D. Flynn (P27413)
1275 Hawthorne Hills SE
Ada, MI 49301
616-897-6632

Leslie Patten
121 Franklin SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49507
616-248-1308

**THEME:
MARCH MADNESS**

ACROSS

- 1. Frosting on a cake, e.g.
- 6. Heat or energy unit
- 9. *School with most championships
- 13. Love intensely
- 14. Dr. Cornelius in sci-fi movie classic, e.g.
- 15. Like dragon after knight's conquest
- 16. Copperfield's domain
- 17. Eating of forbidden fruit, e.g.
- 18. Total amount
- 19. *Game tracker
- 21. In an open way
- 23. Not vertical, abbr.
- 24. Be sick
- 25. Emergency responders
- 28. Home to Stags Leap and Wild Horse
- 30. Superlative of "yare"
- 35. Reluctant, usually followed by "to"
- 37. A tall one is not true
- 39. The present occasion
- 40. U.N. civil aviation agency
- 41. Rossini's opus, e.g.
- 43. It travels through air
- 44. Pulsating pain
- 46. At a great distance
- 47. *Final _____
- 48. Some give this when upset
- 50. Drug abuser
- 52. Dry, as in humor
- 53. Eagerness
- 55. Clinton ____ Rodham
- 57. Famous for its coffee
- 60. *Goes with March
- 64. NBC's "The _____"
- 65. "____ to Joy" by Friedrich Schiller

| CROSSWORD | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| 68 | | | | | | 69 | | | | 70 | | | | |
| 71 | | | | | | 72 | | | | 73 | | | | |

- 67. Become one
- 68. On the move
- 69. Julie Andrews in "The Sound of Music"
- 70. Holy See's administering body
- 71. *Ranking
- 72. Apollo to ancient Greeks
- 73. Levels

DOWN

- 1. Its fleece was white as snow?
- 2. Sixth month of civil year
- 3. Downward and upward dogs are part of this
- 4. _____ Maria Re-marque

- 5. Suppose
- 6. *Georgetown's conference, "The Big _____"
- 7. *Ranking based on strength of schedule
- 8. Major Italian seaport
- 9. _____ Bator, Mongolia
- 10. Collect telephone _____
- 11. Monet's water flower
- 12. "____ day now"
- 15. Novelist _____ Zweig
- 20. Muse of love poetry
- 22. Be nosy
- 24. Deadly or sinister
- 25. *Like last eight
- 26. Sweet coffee drink
- 27. A Beatle
- 29. Daddy
- 31. Over your head?
- 32. To give an income or property
- 33. Scrub or purge
- 34. Towel cloth
- 35. Ungulate's foot
- 38. Victorian or Elizabethan ones, e.g.
- 42. *Kentucky's Rupp _____
- 45. *_____ beater
- 49. "Big Island" flower necklace
- 51. Simplify
- 54. Movie "_____ Came Polly"
- 56. Boredom
- 57. Speaker type
- 58. Baptism, e.g.
- 59. Important battery component
- 60. "Cobbler, cobbler, _____ my shoe"
- 61. Republic of Ireland
- 62. Done in a pot
- 63. Ligurian one and Adriatic one
- 64. Military hospitals
- 66. Simon & Garfunkel, e.g.



MARCH 7 - MARCH 13

- Pittsburgh Power owner fired all 24 members of his arena football team during a pregame meal at an Olive Garden in Orlando. The players' association wanted an increase in game checks and were going to strike.
- Children were left behind, by their parents, at two separate Chuck E Cheese restaurants in the past week. One of the parents has nine children and didn't realize they were missing their child until the next day.
- New studies report a 13 percent increase in early death for people who eat red meat on a daily basis. Daily intake of processed meat came with a 20 percent increase in mortality.
- With The Masters just a couple of weeks away, a limping Tiger Woods leaves the golf course near the final round at the Cadillac Championship in Doral, FL complaining of Achilles tendon pain.
- Chuck Norris has recorded robo calls for never-say-die presidential candidate Newt Gingrich. The recording says, "Hello, this is Chuck Norris," says Norris. "As my wife Gena and I watched the GOP debate and went to their website we were trying to decide which of the candidates would be best to do head-to-head combat with President Obama. Now, I didn't say hand-to-hand combat, even though I think they would win there too. Gena and I decided that Newt Gingrich would be the best man to beat President Obama."
- Researchers may have discovered a lost mural by Leonardo da Vinci behind a fresco painted on the wall of one of Florence's Palazzo Vecchio, and possibly hidden behind a fresco done by Giorgio Vasari decades later.

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Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

Puzzle solutions on page 12



It's springtime in Lowell and I've spotted two robins already.

**THIS WEEK'S
ONLINE POLL**
www.thelowelledger.com
**Should Rush Limbaugh
be banned from the
public airwaves?**

YES?

NO?

He never should have been allowed on the air

I don't listen, I read The Ledger

Red Arrow SPORTS

- GYMNASTICS

Lowell's Plutschow competes at state meet

by Karen Jack

In a season of learning, the Lowell gymnastics team qualified one team member

to go to state competition, in which she competed on Saturday. Sophomore Meghan

Plutschow qualified for the vault competition at the state meet held at Kenowa Hills.

While she didn't place, coach Michele DeHaan said, "I am just so proud of Meghan for placing high enough at regionals to earn a spot to compete at the state level. Now that she got a taste of experiencing the state meet, she already has goals to make it back there next year, [in] more than one event and to place as well."

Plutschow's vault was a handspring/full, where she goes straight onto the vault, then pushes off and does a one and a half back tuck in the air before landing. If done perfectly, she would have scored a 9.4 and with many of her competitors doing Tsukaharas and Yurchenkos - much more difficult vaults - her chances were slim to place. "We knew going in that her vault wasn't as difficult and this is one of those goals she set for next year - to learn more difficult moves so she can level the playing field with her competitors. She's only a sophomore, so she has some time," commented DeHaan.

The team came close to qualifying three other girls on the beam. Lauren DeHaan was only .15 away from qualifying, but lost out due to a fall doing a round-off on the balance beam - which cost her a 0.5 deduction in her total score. Both Kaezi Bladey and Bethany

Kaczanowski were close as well, however, they both fell twice, reducing their scores by full points.

Lowell finished third in the OK White conference and fifth in the region this year - the highest finish ever in both the conference and region. "I'm excited about what's to come. We have a young team, with a lot of potential," added DeHaan.

The gymnastics team has set some lofty goals for next year, including to finish first or second in the conference, to place third or higher at regionals and to go to state as a team. Their coach of 15 years said that she sees this young team breaking some records for Lowell in the next couple of years and believes they will reach their goals.



2012 Lowell gymnastics team.



Meghan Plutschow after landing her vault.

Happy St. Patrick's Day

Dr. Reagan, Carrie, Susan, Lori, Gail, Cara, Jean. Missing from photo Julie & Becky

From *Dr. Reagan & Staff*

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Are You Ready For March Madness?

Catch the excitement of March Madness, even if you're a basketball novice. There are many ways to predict NCAA Tournament brackets without needing to know the difference between a layup and a dribble.

Pick by Mascot: Sure, this is the clichéd way to pick winners. But when else can you choose between an Orangeman and Blue Devil? Pick by Personal Connection: Second cousin went to Purdue? Go Boilermakers! Once drove through Madison? Wisconsin's the pick.

Pick Against Your Basketball Obsessed Friends: The NCAA Tournament is unpredictable. No matter how much people may know, one upset will derail their brackets faster than they can say "Gonzaga." Plus, with a surprise win, you'll have bragging rights through next March.